

St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish



421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

(269) 381-8917 • Fax (269) 381-0195

e-mail: sttoms@sttomskazoo.org website: <http://www.sttomskazoo.org>

Office Located at 1333 W. Lovell Street

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1:00 p.m. daily)

PARISH STAFF

Sharon Froom, MA, LLP, Pastoral Counselor
Deacon Pat Hall, Pastoral Team
Sr. Sue McCrery, CSJ, Pastoral Team
Marian Nelson, Pastoral Team
Fr. James Richardson, Pastoral Team
Fr. Ken Schmidt, Pastoral Team
Deacon Joe Schmitt, Pastoral Team
Jerry & Molly Mechtenberg-Berrigan, Youth Faith Formation
Michele Cretsinger, Parish Secretary
Patty Donovan Haley, Religious Education Coordinator, 343-6256
Marianne Lippi, Development Secretary
Martha Reid, Bookkeeper
Lyle Smith, Maintenance

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Daily Mass 5:15 p.m.

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Baptism, Reconciliation, Marriage — Call the parish office to set an appointment. Please note that the period of marriage preparation is at least six months. If you know of anyone who is sick or homebound, please call the parish office.

PASTORAL ASSISTANCE

Staff members are available for appointments.
Please call the parish office at 381-8917 or call
Catholic Family Services at 381-9800

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT—We, the people of St. Thomas More Parish, gifted and led by the Holy Spirit, are called to build up the kingdom of God among the college communities of Kalamazoo. Diverse, yet one, we are called to be the Body of Christ, to praise and worship our Heavenly Father, to proclaim God's Word, to love and serve others, especially the poor and neglected. We welcome all into our parish family who wish to share in this mission.

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

February 14, 2010

Jeremiah 17:5-8 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Luke 6:17, 20-26

The next scheduled **BAPTISM** of infants will take place February 20 after 6:00 p.m. Mass. Parents and godparents are expected to participate in a class before the celebration of this sacrament. The next scheduled baptism class is Monday, February 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. To register call the parish office at 381-8917.

Our next **PRE-MARRIAGE MEETING** will be held on Sunday, February 28, 2010 following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Couples planning to marry within the next year should plan on attending one of these meetings. You must register before attending. Please call 381-8917.

MASS COORDINATORS, LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Your February through May schedule is available for pickup in the narthex. The schedules are on the Liturgical Minister sign-in table.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6 – *St. Paul Miki and Companions*

6:00 p.m. † Tom Coulter

requested by Dave & Kathy Reece

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 – *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:30 a.m. † Grace Kenney mother of Mary Kenney

11:30 a.m. Dorothy Horgan (living) requested by Anne Mills

5:30 p.m. People of Maria Madre de los Pobres

7:30 pm. Peace in the world

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – *St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita*

5:15 p.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

5:15 p.m. Relief workers in Haiti

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 – *St. Scholastica*

5:15 p.m. Men and women serving in the military

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11 – *Our Lady of Lourdes*

5:15 p.m. The unemployed

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

2:00 p.m. Heartland Communion Service

5:15 p.m. Priests serving the Diocese of Kalamazoo

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

6:00 p.m. † Al Newhouse

brother-in-law of Mike & Nancy Pinkster

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 – *Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

9:30 a.m. † Grace Kenney

requested by Josie Snyder & Elayne Nesbitt

11:30 a.m. † Agnes Reilly

requested by Dave & Mary Jo Reilly

5:30 p.m. People of the parish

7:30 pm. Peace in the world

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

SCRIPTURE READINGS — February 8 - February 13

Monday 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13 Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30 Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kings 10:1-10 Mark 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kings 11:4-13 Mark 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19 Mark 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34 Mark 8:1-10

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:30 a.m. Breaking Open The Word
Children & Worship
Nursery

11:30 a.m. Children & Worship
Nursery

6:30 p.m. Sunday Supper

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

1:45-2:45 p.m. Isaac Housing meeting

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Vocations

6:00 p.m. Meditation and Centering Prayer

7:00 p.m. Baptism Class

7:00-10:00 p.m. A Capella

8:30-10:00 p.m. SMT Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

12:00 p.m. AA/Al Anon

7:00 p.m. RCIA Catechumenate

8:00 p.m. Student AA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

6:30 p.m. Women's Group

8:30 p.m. More at Midweek

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

10:30 a.m. Yoga

6:00 p.m. Rosary

5:30 p.m. Beacon Group

6:00-9:00 p.m. Virtus

7:30 p.m. Fr. James presentation

8:00 p.m. Student AA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

12:00 p.m. AA/Al Anon

7:00 p.m. Rudi Siebert series

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:00 a.m. Women's AA

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Deaconate Formation

10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Delegation Orientation

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9:30 a.m. Children & Worship
Nursery

11:30 a.m. Children & Worship
Nursery

5:00-7:00 p.m. Interfaith Coalition for Peace & Justice

5:30 p.m. Breaking Open The Word

6:30 p.m. Sunday Supper

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE ACTIVITIES AT
ST. TOM'S BY CHECKING OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.sttomskazoo.org

KEN'S KALEIDOSCOPE

This coming week I'll be gone to San Mateo, California, for the annual convention of priests who are directors of continuing formation for priests. I'll also be leading a workshop on the topic of childhood trauma and its effects on priestly spirituality.

Update on Art in the Church – the Art Committee has prepared a "request for proposals" from local artists, which will be publicized through the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo. There was a long delay due to other issues at the Arts Council. Details should be settled soon and we'll be back on the road again. The proposal is for a two-dimensional or three-dimensional representation of the cross, which suggests or in some way follows the model of our afternoon prayer on Good Friday -- people who gather "at the foot of the cross." The artwork will represent both the "tree of defeat" and the "tree of victory" because the cross is both the means of Jesus' death, and our path to resurrection.

STUDENT NEWS

Sunday Supper A FREE home-cooked supper is served from 6:30-7:00 p.m. upstairs in the Social Hall. Supper includes a main entree, salad, beverage, and dessert. Normally a vegetarian option is also available. Come for the 5:30 Mass and stay for supper - or come to supper and stay for the 7:30 Mass. FREE for college students & young adults! **This week's dinner is pork loin dinner with the trimmings — don't miss the great food and fellowship.**

More at Midweek – 7:00 Quiet Prayer; 7:30 Praise and Worship; 8:15 Come and enjoy Carnival with our students from the Dominican Republic. The music and dancing, the costumes and culture – all part of the rich Caribbean tradition – here at St. Tom's for us to celebrate and enjoy with our Dominican friends.

– *Finding Our Catholic Identity* –

ST. TOM'S SPRING COLLEGE STUDENT RETREAT,
March 12 – 14, 2010.

Join us for a full weekend of fun, friends, and faith sharing as we learn and reflect upon our Catholic traditions. Cost for registered students is \$40; for non-registered students or those from other schools, the cost is \$80. Registration forms are available in church (on the bulletin table by the doorway), or can be downloaded from our website: www.sttomska.zoo.org The retreat is limited to 40 people, so sign up ASAP, no later than Sunday, February 20. Retreat directors are Katelyn Naber and Sarah Rivard.

St. Tom's Men's Group Lenten Retreat -

Set aside March 13th for our annual Lenten Retreat. Back by popular demand is Fr. Fitz, who will facilitate our gathering, entitled:

"Companions on the Lenten Journey"

We will meet at St. Tom's at 8:30 a.m. to sign in and share some coffee/doughnuts....the retreat will start at 9:00 am and end by 4:00 pm. Cost is \$25 and includes your beverages/snacks/lunch, as well as retreat materials. Financial assistance is available. Applications are available in the church narthex. All men are welcome, so bring a friend.

Questions?....call Lowell Rinker at 349-7343

HERE AT ST. TOM'S

St. Tom's Women's Group Mardi Gras Celebration – Women of all ages are invited to celebrate Carnival (Mardi Gras) **this Wednesday 6:30 – 8:00 pm** upstairs in the Social Hall. Our students from the Dominican Republic will be here to share this cultural event with us – the music and dancing, the costume and the culture that makes Carnival such a rich Caribbean tradition. Bring a friend and wear your dancing shoes. We'll be transported to the Dominican Republic for a few hours!

During winter time when the ice and snow pile up, we have some time to look inward. Join Fr. James this Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Bronco Room as we look at the life of prayer and the call to conversion through Thomas DuBay's "Deep Conversion Deep Prayer." We will discuss how a person goes from superficial faith to the faith that moves hearts, what the Bible shows us about prayer, how the early Christians prayed, and how God moves in each of his children in a unique way. The series will continue each Thursday through Easter and each night is sure to be an edge of your seat thrill.

Dr. Siebert, professor in WMU's Religion Dept., will lead a seminar for 6 weeks beginning Friday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cougar Room. The topic is The New Encyclical on Human Development in American Politics in 2010. We shall discuss the new social Encyclical Letter (Love in Truth) by Pope Benedict XVI. We shall apply the new encyclical to present political life in America.

Mondays — 6:00 - 6:40 pm **Silent Prayer and Meditation** in the Bronco Room. Need some quiet prayer time? Join us for a brief devotional reading followed by 25 minutes of prayer & meditation in shared silence.

Yoga — Experience the benefits of Yoga. Increased strength, balance, and flexibility. Stronger core, reduced stress, relaxed and clear mind. Join us on Thursday mornings at 10:30 am in the Cougar Room. All levels welcome – no experience necessary. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. Donations accepted (suggested amount of \$5 - \$10).

SISTER PARISH NEWS

In today's first reading the author responds: "Here I am Lord, send me!" Have you ever thought of yourself as a missionary—not the kind that leaves his home and family and travels to a foreign country, but a missionary to those around you? You are God's image, fortified with the words of Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Words are powerful—think of the power you have acquired through your education. You have accomplished much of what you have done because you are well educated. Be a missionary. Share that power, the power of the word with our students at *Maria Madre de los Pobres*. When you sponsor a high school or college student, you are giving them the power to make changes in themselves, their community, and our world. There is more information in the narthex about sponsoring a student. Be a missionary, share the power.

For those of you who might have missed sending a note to your sponsored student, you can send one with the student delegation leaving at the end of this month. **Please have letters in for translation by February 19 or, if written in Spanish, by February 26.**

St. Tom's/St. Joe's Youth Faith Formation High School Summer Service Week

For the third year we are returning to St. Robert's for a faith-filled, fun and memorable service week!

When: July 18—22, 2010

Where: St. Robert of Newminster Parish, Ada, Michigan

What: Four days of service, reflection, building community and learning about Catholic theology.

Who: Any interested high school age youth or upcoming 9th grader.

Why: Young people who participated last year called it "the best event of my summer" and "a fun and meaningful" experience. You will love it and be inspired by four days of prayer and service work with 250 other young people from across Michigan.

How much: \$220. Scholarships and fundraising can reduce this cost for everyone who wants to go.

We need to have final number by mid-February — Sign Up Today!

Please contact Molly or Jerry @ 381-8917 or godsyouth@sttomskazoo.org for more information.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CLASSES MEET ON SUNDAYS

10:10-11:10 (English) or 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (bilingual)
at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Lake Street

The annual "Fill the Ark" service project is in progress and it will run until Sunday February 14, 2010. This project raises money for Heifer International. Heifer's mission is "to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth." Heifer empowers people by giving them a hand-out, not just a hand-out. They help turn lives of hunger and poverty into lives of self-reliance and hope. Heifer International can be found online at www.heifer.org, as well as on Myspace, Facebook and Twitter! Please call Patty at 343-6256 if you want to participate in this project or if you need further information regarding Heifer International.

REMEMBER: If the weather is bad on ANY Sunday morning and you think classes may be cancelled, please call the Religious Ed. Dept. at 343-6256, ext. 110 to check for cancellations. The message will be changed by 8:00 a.m. to reflect any cancellations.

Year End Giving Statements are available for pick-up in the narthex. If you have any questions please call Martha at the parish office, 381-8917 x266.

JANUARY 2010	Growing in	
	Sunday Collection	the Spirit Mortgage Fund
Weekly Target	\$ 12,550.00	\$ 3,350.00
1/3	7,010.96	705.00
1/10	10,203.01	1,468.45
1/17	10,183.23	4,978.35
1/24	8,999.06	749.85
1/31	8,876.13	841.35
Electronic gifts	11,901.00	2,235.00
Total gifts to date for January 2010	57,173.39	10,978.00
Operating budget to date for January 2010	62,750.00	16,750.00
Difference in January 2010	(5,576.61)	(5,772.00)
Fiscal year to date (+/-)	(4,922.68)	(54,805.25)

AREA HAPPENINGS

40 Days for Life is a national, interdenominational, and peaceful movement to pray and fast for an end to abortion in this country. In Kalamazoo, there will be peaceful prayer from February 17–March 28 outside the Planned Parenthood Clinic at 4201 W. Michigan Avenue. You may also participate by praying at home. Participants are asked to commit to pray at a specific time and a specific day of the week during Lent. For more information, call (269) 254-9337.

Thursday Night Lenten Reflection Series, Saint Catherine of Siena Church, 1150 West Centre Avenue, Portage. 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the church, Rev. Fr. John D. Fleckenstein. February 18, "I Thirst" This presentation will "kick off" the Lenten Series by examining the complexity of the Season of Lent, with an emphasis on the seven "Last Words" of Christ. Emphasis will be place on Jesus' fifth word: "I thirst."

Depression and Faith—Facing Chronic Illness with God at your Side facilitated by Kathy Fawley-Huss, LMSW, BCD, from Desert Streams Christian Counseling, Sunday, February 21, 2:00-3:00 p.m., Trinity Chapel at St. Catherine's, Centre St., Portage. Discussion regarding Depression Support Group to follow.

Valentine's Day is coming soon. Need a special gift for your spouse? Why not take them away for a special weekend of communication, reflection and time away from your hectic schedule. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is March 5-7 in Kalamazoo. Make plans now to reserve your spot for the weekend. For more information, contact Bob & JeanAnn McCann, 616-847-0582.

Prayers, Coffee and Conversation—Join us for a cup of coffee and dialogue about religious life. Do you have questions about religious life? Is your heart being moved to search for something else? Take some time to reflect and pray with us. Saturday, February 27, 9:30-2:30 p.m. Bernadine Franciscan Sisters, 27405 W. Ten Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Call 248-476-4111. www.bfranciscan.org.

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